

NNW 868,039

By ST/VSW Date 4/8/98



Pol 27 India - Pak
Department of State
TELEGRAM

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HI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 243

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 /026 W

P R 120600Z DEC 72
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7103
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

121935

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ISLAMABAD 9952

EXDIS
FROM CHARGE

SUBJ: INDO/PAK AGREEMENT ON KASHMIR LINE;
WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES

REF: ISLAMABAD 9937

1. I CONSIDER THE DECEMBER 11 AGREEMENT OVER THE KASHMIR LINE TO HAVE VERY IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS. NOT ONLY DOES IT OPEN THE WAY FOR FORCE WITHDRAWALS BY BOTH INDIA AND PAKISTAN TO THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER, BUT IT ALSO MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR BOTH COUNTRIES TO PICK UP THE THREAD OF OTHER POSITIVE STEPS ANTICIPATED IN THE SIMLA ACCORD OF LAST JULY. WE ARE WELL AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT MANY OBSTACLES REMAIN TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A QTE DURABLE PEACE IN THE SUBCONTINENT UNQTE AS CONTEMPLATED IN THE SIMLA ACCORD.

2. I BELIEVE THIS IS AN APPROPRIATE TIME FOR US TO SHOW OUR PLEASURE OVER THE KASHMIR LINE DELINEATION AND THE BEGINNING OF FORCE WITHDRAWALS, AND TO UNDERLINE OUR HOPES THAT INDIA AND PAKISTAN WILL CONTINUE ALONG THE POSITIVE PATH DRAWN AT SIMLA. THIS CAN BE DONE BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN, AND PERHAPS WILL ALREADY HAVE BEEN DONE BY THE TIME THIS MESSAGE REACHES WASHINGTON. I BELIEVE THAT OUR PLEASURE AND OUR HOPES CAN MOST EFFECTIVELY BE EXPRESSED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN (AND PRESUMABLY ALSO TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA) BY A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NIXON

1/25

12/12/72

Islamabad 9952

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PA/HO, Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
June 9, 2005

By ST/VSW Date 4/8/98



Department of State

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TO PRESIDENT BHUTTO (AND TO MRS. GANDHI). IF SOME SUCH MESSAGE IS NOT ALREADY IN THE DRAFTING STAGE, I RECOMMEND THAT EARLY ATTENTION BE GIVEN TO THIS SUGGESTION. GDS
SOBER

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